

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended): A water-absorbing resin compound, which comprises a water-absorbing resin, an antibacterial agent comprising ~~having~~ a porous material incorporating an antibacterial metal, and a metal chelating agent,

wherein the water-absorbing resin consists of a cross-linked polymer of an acrylic acid salt,

wherein said metal chelating agent [[is]] comprises powder particles which are outside of the porous material; and,

wherein 80% by weight or more of the powder particles have a particle diameter of 100 μ m or less.

2. (Original): The water-absorbing resin compound according to claim 1, wherein the content of the antibacterial agent is 0.001-1 parts by weight with respect to 100 parts by weight of the water-absorbing resin.

3. (Original): The water-absorbing resin compound according to claim 1, wherein the content of the antibacterial metal incorporated in antibacterial agent is 0.1-15 parts by weight with respect to 100 parts by weight of the porous material.

4. (Original): The water-absorbing resin compound according to claim 1, wherein the content of the metal chelating agent is 0.01-10 parts by weight with respect to 100 parts by weight of the water-absorbing resin.

5.(Original): The water-absorbing resin compound according to claim 1, wherein the metal chelating agent is an aminocarboxylic acid metal chelating agent.

6. (Original): The water-absorbing resin compound according to claim 5, wherein the aminocarboxylic acid metal chelating agent is at least one selected from a group consisting of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid, diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid, triethylenetetraaminehexaacetic acid, and salts thereof.

7. (Original): An absorbing material, which comprises a water-absorbing resin compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6, and a hydrophilic fiber.

8. (Original): An absorbing product, which comprises a liquid-permeable sheet; a liquid-non-permeable sheet; and an absorbing material comprising a water-absorbing resin compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6 and a hydrophilic fiber, wherein the absorbing material lying between the liquid-permeable sheet and the liquid-non-permeable sheet.

9. (Previously presented): A water-absorbing resin compound according to claim 1, wherein the antibacterial agent is an eluting-type.

10. (New): A water-absorbing resin compound according to claim 1, further comprising a complex formed of the metal chelating agent and the anti-bacterial metal.